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**IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE OF
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY - CHAPTER II**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

5 APPLICANTS: Lothar Finzel, Günter Schröder and Heinz Diermeier
ATTORNEY
DOCKET NO.: P-98,1197
SERIAL NO.: EXAMINER:
FILING DATE: ART UNIT:
10 INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/DE96/02331
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 5 December 1996
INVENTION: "CABLE JOINT FOR OPTICAL FIBRES WITH SPLICING
CASSETTES AND OVERLENGTH LOOPS"

15 **BOX PCT**
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

20 In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, it is
requested that a citation and examination of the references listed on the attached
Form PTO-1449 be made during the course of the examination of the above-
identified application.

R E M A R K S

25 German 39 04 232 was discussed on page 1 of the original specification and
on amended page 1. U.S. Patent No. 4,709,980 and European 0 532 980 were cited
in Category Y in the International Search Report dated August 29, 1997 and were

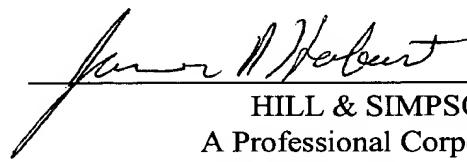
also discussed on amended page 2. Copies of these three references are attached herewith.

5 In the Search Report, in addition to the above-mentioned references, U.S. Patent No. 4,744,622 plus the Abstract for Japanese 63-005308 were cited in Category X. Copies of these references are also attached herewith.

The Search Report also cited German 41 40 701 and 44 08 633; the Patent Abstract for Japanese 06-118253 along with U.S. Patent No. 4,626,616; GB 2 277 812 and European Nos. 0 029 571; 0 091 633; 0 350 245 and 0 581 634, all in Category A. Copies of these nine references are also attached herewith.

10 It is respectfully submitted that the claims presented in this application are patentable over these references in view of the International Preliminary Examination Report of January 29, 1998.

Respectfully submitted,

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20 DATED: July 17, 1998